

The tale of Tuso

Chapter 1: The den

It was a peaceful morning, when Tuso found himself outside the panther den. He had been out exploring and had decided that he wanted to be the first spirit to ever see a panther cub.

The panthers of Noiton had always been a little evasive and were always hard to find but Tuso had been able to locate their den. He remembered what Seim had taught the spirits. "The panthers are creatures of the dark and they can be very dangerous" Tuso repeated those words to himself, as something in that sentence was keeping him from entering. "Creatures of the dark"

When Tuso's leaf fell from the spirit mangrove it was easy to tell that he would not abide by the nature of the Noitonian spirits. He had always been a bit of a rebel and always wanted to find and explore new places. He never wanted to live with the other spirits in their small separate groups but rather be on his own and explore.

He decided to enter anyways, as he knew that their level of danger was determined by their mood. As he went deeper into the cave the light faltered and his own glow was the only source of light. The entrance was but a little dot behind him as he ventured down into the den.

As Tuso was approaching the end of the den he knew that something wasn't right. It was not dangerous but it didn't feel harmless either. It felt like something was watching him. Tuso was scared "Creatures of the dark" was constantly repeating inside his head. He just wanted to get out but he couldn't. He was just way too curious.

As he went even deeper into the den the feeling of being watched became more threatening. The walls of the cave began to look more manipulated.

Almost like someone had intentionally made them smoother. Tuso didn't understand how it was even possible as he had a good relationship with the Lakas, the architects of Noiton. They had told him that they always had feared the panthers and would never come close to them.

Tuso walked along the wall letting his hand slide on the smooth rock. Somehow the cave was not dark anymore. It had a dim glow to it that almost seemed like sunlight but Tuso couldn't see any light sources. Suddenly Tuso felt something sticking out of the engraved wall. It looked like a lever so Tuso curiously pulled it.

Suddenly the entire cave began to glow as torches along the walls began to light up and Tuso saw why he had been feeling watched. A massive sculpture of a panther head began to show as the torches lit up. Slowly the sculpture

began to open its jaws and a tiny room became visible. Tuso couldn't resist anymore, he HAD to go in there and see what ancient treasure could be hidden inside. The small room only contained a container about the same size as Tuso himself.

As he opened it several clumps of dust and dirt crumbled away from the lid, inside was five pieces of paper and a stone tablet, the tablet had some symbols written on it. It spelled "when this tablet has been found two forests destinys will have been sealed, now only five remain. Tuso was confused as he looked at the five pieces of paper. They all looked like maps, one looked like an island, another looked like a large savannah, a big blooming valley, a spruce forest and one looked like a mangrove forest.